

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-8, 10-42 constitute the pending claims in the present application. Claims 1, 4-8, 10-38 and 42 has been indicated as allowable.

Claims 39-41 have been canceled. These claims have been canceled so that the allowed claims will issue. No new matter has been added. Amendment or cancellation of the originally filed claims should in no way be construed as acquiescence, narrowing, or surrender of any subject matter. Applicants reserve the option to prosecute further the originally filed claims or other ones, in the instant or a subsequent patent application.

Rejections under 35 U. S. C. 103(a)

Claims 39-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston.

Claims 39-41 have been canceled, rendering this rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-832-1000. Should a further extension of time be required other than provided for, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this application be charged to Deposit Account, No. 06-1448.

Respectfully Submitted,



Theresa C. Kavanaugh
Reg. No. 50,356
Agent for Applicants

Date: August 27, 2004
Customer No: 25181
Patent Group
Foley Hoag LLP
155 Seaport Boulevard
Boston, MA 02210-2600